Date: October 1, 2004 Contact: Jim Ondrey Phone: (614) 462-5273

## FRANKLIN COUNTY SEEKS INPUT ON COMMUNITY NEEDS

**Columbus, OH** – During October, Franklin County will host a series of four public meetings to gather input for the development of the Urban County Five-Year Consolidated Plan. All Franklin County residents (with the exception of those living within the City of Columbus) are cordially invited to attend one of these meetings and provide input to this plan.

This plan is the guiding document that lays out the goals, priorities and strategies for the distribution of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars within Franklin County (excluding the City of Columbus\*).

Federal CDBG funding is distributed by the county annually to local cities, townships and villages to take care of community and economic development projects such as the promotion of affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, public infrastructure, economic development and supportive services.

These meetings will be held in the following locations from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the dates listed below:

- 1) **Prairie Township Senior Center,** 4656 W. Broad Street (in the Lincoln Village Shopping Plaza), on Tuesday, October 12, 2004 (for west & northwest side residents).
- 2) **Grove City Hall, Council Chambers,** 4035 Broadway, on Wednesday, October 13, 2004 (for south & southwest side residents).
- 3) **Mifflin Township Administration Bldg.,** 155 Olde Ridenour Rd., on Monday, October 18, 2004 (for north & northeast side residents).
- 4) **Reynoldsburg City Hall, Council Chambers,** 7232 E. Main Street, on Wednesday, October 20, 2004 (for east & southeast side residents).

Meeting agendas will include a presentation by Community Research Partners on their research-based assessment of Franklin County's community development needs. Other meeting topics will include identifying CDBG dollars available, the activities eligible for these grants, and a discussion of dollar awards made in prior years by project type. These meetings will conclude with solicitation of public input for inclusion in the county's upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

County residents who are unable to attend one of these meetings can still provide input to this plan by filling out a "Community Needs Survey" available on the Franklin County Government Web site\*\* at the following address: <a href="www.franklincountyohio.gov">www.franklincountyohio.gov</a>. Once

on the County's home page, click on the "Community Needs Survey" listed under the "Franklin County Links."

## ####

- \* NOTE: THE CITY OF COLUMBUS APPLIES FOR AND RECEIVES ITS OWN FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING.
- \*\* THIS SURVEY WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEB SITE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2004.